DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

REASON FOR INVESTIGATION

The Civil Grand Jury received three formal complaints concerning payments from the Family Support Division.

PROCEDURE FOLLOWED

The Grand Jury interviewed Chief Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Krumm, who is the manager of the division, and also reviewed the complainants family support files to the degree allowable. The files are confidential, as they pertain mostly to juveniles and can only be reviewed in full with a court order.

FINDINGS

- 1. The Family Support Division is managed by the chief deputy district attorney and has an open case load of approximately 8,000 at any one time.
- 2. The division is part of a three-county computer consortium created to manage cases efficiently. Nevada, Marin, and San Mateo counties share the cost on a percent of total case load.
- 3. The division retains a percentage of funds collected if the payee was every on public support until the debt is satisfied. These retained funds are then returned to the original agency. These could include refunds to programs such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, General Assistance, or any other governmental agency which may have a claim.
- 4. The division is governed by state and federal statutes.
- 5. The division collects and distributes approximately \$4,700,000 per year, which is used for family support and recovery of government funds.
- 6. The three complaints received were identified as (one) being a data entry error and (two) the result of following the complex regulations of the government. The division has no latitude to change these regulations.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The division is well managed as shown by the aggressive enhancement of its computer capability by forming the tri-county consortium which has increased the group's overall efficiency.
- 2. That the division is well managed is evidenced by the low number of complaints filed: three out of 8,000 cases.

RECOMMENDATIONS

None

REQUIRED RESPONSES

None